

Message Text

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11

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 SPM-01 IGA-02 AGR-20 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 INT-08 NSC-07 TRSE-00 SCI-06

PC-10 USIA-15 INR-10 DRC-01 RSC-01 /167 W

----- 074735

R 281530Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8155

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID

SUBJECT: PLANNED UN/SSO OFFICE IN OUAGADOUGOU

REF: STATE 123830

1. UN UNDER-SEC-GEN BRADFORD MORSE AND GALAL MAGDI, DIRECTOR-DESIGNATE OF SPECIAL SAHEL OFFICE (SSO) OUAGADOUGOU BRANCH VISITED OUAGADOUGOU-GOU JUNE 25-27. MEETING OF UNDP RESREPS FROM SAHEL COUNTRIES WAS HELD HERE DURING VISIT.

2. GOUV PLAN/RURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER DAKOURE, WHO IS REGIONAL COORDINATOR OF CILSS (INTERSTATE DROUGHT COMMITTEE), DELAYED HIS DEPARTURE FROM OUAGADOUGOU FOR TWO DAYS IN ORDER MEET WITH MORSE JUNE 26. MORSE TOLD EMBASSY HIS CONVERSATION WITH
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DAKOURE "COULDN'T HAVE BEEN BETTER," BUT DID NOT

OFFER MUCH SPECIFICS. HE SAID DAKOURE TOLD HIM CILSS WOULD BE CONCERNED WITH REGIONAL PROJECTS, BUT THAT INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES WOULD DEAL DIRECTLY WITH DONORS ON NATIONAL PROJECTS.

3. AT MEETING ATTENDED BY OTHER DONOR REPS JUNE 27, MORSE EXPLAINED INTENDED ROLE OF SSO OFFICE TO BE OPENED HERE WHEN GALAL MAGDI, CANADIAN NATIONAL FROM CIDA, RETURNS TO OUAGADOUGOU AUG 1. OFFICE WILL CONSIST OF MAGDI, TWO OR THREE OTHER PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL, AND ONE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER. SSO/OUAGA'S TASKS WILL BE: (A) LIAISON WITH CILSS; (B) COORDINATION OF ACTIONS OF UN SYSTEM; (C) FACILITATING WORK OF OTHER DONORS AND NGO'S. THUS IT WILL BE A LIAISON OFFICE, NOT AN EXECUTING AGENCY. IN KEEPING WITH MANDATE OF SSO/NEW YORK, SSO/OUAGA WILL BE CONCERNED WITH MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT AND NOT WITH EMERGENCY PROGRAMS, WHICH ARE COORDINATING RESPONSIBILITY OF FAO. SSO WILL NOT DISTURB EXISTING UN ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES; THUS NATIONAL PROJECTS WILL CONTINUE BE RESPONSIBILITY OF UNDP RESREPS. SSO/OUAGA WILL HELP FACILITATE RESREPS'WORK, AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL EXPERTISE FOR DOING SOME SECTORIAL STUDIES. MORSE WILL ASSIST UN SEC-GEN IN RAISING FUNDS TO BE USED FOR SAHEL BY UNDP AS AGREED BETWEEN MORSE AND UNDP ADMINISTRATOR.

4. COMMENT: ROLE ENVISAGED FOR SSO/OUAGA IS RATHER LEAN, ALTHOUGH MUCH BIGGER ROLE WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE REALISTIC. LIAISON WITH CILSS IS AN EXTREMELY LIMITED FUNCTION, SINCE CILSS ITSELF NEITHER DECIDES ON PROJECT SELECTION AND ALLOCATION OF FUNDS, NOR EXECUTES PROJECTS. (CILSS HAS, OF COURSE, FUNCTIONED VERY WELL IN PUBLIC RELATIONS ROLE OF MOBILIZING INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR SAHEL COUNTRIES.) IT IS UNCLEAR WHAT SSO/OUAGA WILL BE ABLE TO DO IN COORDINATING ACTIONS OF UN FAMILY WITHOUT EITHER STEPPING ON TOES OF RESREPS OR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEING STYMIED BY INDEPENDENCE OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES' OWN PROGRAMS. IT IS SIMILARLY UNCLEAR WHAT IF ANYTHING SSO/OUAGA MIGHT DO TO HELP OTHER DONORS. BULLEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECRETARY GENERAL, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974OUAGAD01291
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740172-0941
From: OUAGADOUGOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974064/aaaaacwe.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 123830
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <24 MAR 2003 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PLANNED UN/SSO OFFICE IN OUAGADOUGOU
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, UV, UNDP, SPECIAL SAHEL OFFICE, SSO (SPECIAL SAHEL OFFICE, (MORSE, BRADFORD), (MAGDI, GALAL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005